Ranch Management

The Ranch Management curriculum is designed to provide the student returning to the ranch or diversified livestock operation with the management and production skills necessary to be successful.

Students will have the opportunity to apply concepts learned through hands-on activities at the NDSCS Kosel Family Agriculture Land Lab and other classroom and laboratory activities. The Land Lab is a 90-acre demonstration farm operated by the Agriculture Department, students, and industry partners.

Classroom curriculum focuses on ranch management topics such as livestock production, feeds and feeding, livestock health, financial management, record keeping, commodity marketing, precision agriculture, crop production, plant science, and soil fertility. Courses incorporate current technologies enabling students to acquire the skills necessary to manage and operate today’s farms.

Spring semester classes conclude mid-April each year allowing students to return to the home farm or ranch to assist with spring activities. During the summer, students will complete a farm record keeping internship for a hypothetical farm similar to their home farm. They will be required to collect data from their home farm such as crop mix, seed, fertilizer, chemical costs, real estate taxes, crop yields, prices received for commodities, and land costs. When they return in the fall, this data will then be plugged into the hypothetical farm and analyzed using computerized software. Each student should then have a good understanding of what a typical year might look like on their home farm.

For students who decide to continue their education, the majority of program credits earned at NDSCS will transfer into a bachelor’s degree program.

Admission Requirements*
The applicants must be high school graduates or equivalent. Helpful courses to prepare for this program are mathematics, physical science, biology, agricultural education, computer sciences, and English. Courses that develop communication skills are important.

Required minimum placement scores:

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<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>ACCUPLACER ACCUPLACER ACCUPLACER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading – 14</td>
<td>Reading Comp – 61</td>
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<tr>
<td>English – 16</td>
<td>Sentence Skills – 20</td>
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<td>Writing – 5</td>
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Or transfer equivalencies will apply as appropriate

Applicants not meeting the above requirements are encouraged to visit with the academic counselor at 701-671-2263 or the Agriculture department chair at 701-671-2249 for strategies to meet the admission requirements.

*Program Admission Requirements are subject to revision. Please check the department or program website under Program Admission Requirements for current information.

Award
Upon successful completion of the required courses, students will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree in Agriculture with an emphasis in Ranch Management.

Course Code | Course Title                                    | Credits |
------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------|
AGEC 145    | Farm Records                                    | 3       |
AGEC 242    | Introduction to Agricultural Management         | 4       |
AGEC 244    | Introduction to Agricultural Marketing          | 3       |
AGEC 246    | Introduction to Agricultural Finance            | 3       |
AGEC 247    | Agricultural Land Resource Acquisition          | 2       |
AGEC 248    | Introduction to Risk Management and Insurance   | 3       |
AGRI 191    | First Year Seminar                              | 1       |
AGRI 275    | Introduction to Precision Agriculture           | 3       |
AGRI 291    | Second Year Seminar                             | 1       |
AGRI 197    | Internship                                      | 4       |
AGRI 297    | Internship                                      | 2       |
ANSC 114    | Introduction to Animal Sciences                 | 3       |
ANSC 123    | Feeds and Feeding                               | 3       |
ANSC 220    | Livestock Production                            | 3       |
ANSC 236    | Introduction to Range Management                | 2       |
Any Agriculture Electives | 6 |

Related/General Education Courses
AGRI 135    | Applied Math                                    | 2       |
ENGL 110    | College Composition I                           | 3       |
FYE 101     | Science of Success                              | 1       |
HPER 210    | First Aid and CPR (Professional/Community)      | 2       |
MATH 120    | Basic Mathematics I                             | 2       |
PLSC 110    | World Food Crops                                | 3       |
SOIL 210    | Introduction to Soil Science                    | 3       |
English/Communication Elective (choose one) | 3 |
ENGL 105    | Technical Communications                        |         |
ENGL 120    | College Composition II                          |         |
ENGL 125    | Introduction to Professional Writing            |         |
COMM 110    | Fundamentals of Public Speaking                 |         |
Social and Behavioral Sciences, Humanities, History and/or Computer Electives | 4 |

Total Required Credits: 69

Revised: May 2020